

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 A-01 MMO-01 PER-01 ABF-01
OMB-01 AGRE-00 EB-08 COME-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 OES-07
FBIE-00 TRSE-00 /077 W
-----022736 182232Z /73

R 171848Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2316

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 CARACAS 4515

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OGEN, AFSP
SUBJECT: FY -1980 GORM PROCESS, PART II: OTHER AGENCIES

REF: STATE 63477

1. (I) OTHER AGENCIES. (A) USICA. ICA'S COUNTRY PLAN, JUST SUBMITTED, ADEQUATELY DESCRIBES THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES, PRIORITIES AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE MISSION'S OVERALL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. I CONCUR IN THE OUTLINES OF THIS PLAN AND WITH THE AGENCY'S PRIORITIES.

2. THE ICA STAFF IN CARACAS CONSISTS OF 12 AUTHORIZED AMERICAN POSITIONS AND 31 LOCALS. (THE AMERICAN POSITIONS DO NOT INCLUDE ONE TRAINEE SLOT ASSIGNED TO CARACAS.). ONE OF THE 12 AMERICAN AUTHORIZED POSITIONS IS CURRENTLY UNFILLED, BUT IS EARMARKED FOR THE DIRECTORSHIP OF AN INFORMATION CENTER SLATED TO COME ON STREAM IN THE FY 78-79 TIME FRAME. TWO ADDITIONAL LOCAL POSITIONS FOR THE CENTER ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO BE AUTHORIZED FOR THAT TIME FRAME.

3. IN ITS ZBB SUBMISSION ICA CARACAS HANDLED A 10 PERCENT REDUCTION IN FUNDING LEVELS BY PROPOSING (1) TO REDUCE THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM BY 10
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PERCENT; (2) TO ELIMINATE ALL GOE AND MEDIA SUPPORT FOR THE CARACAS AND MARACAIBO BINATIONAL CENTERS; AND (3) TO ELIMINATE THE BNC DIRECTOR POSITION IN MARACAIBO.

4. I AGREE WITH (1) ABOVE, BUT HAVE TROUBLE WITH THE OTHER TWO. I BELIEVE THAT ELIMINATION OF THE MARACAIBO POSITION WOULD DEPRIVE US OF A MATERIALLY SIGNIFICANT OUTLET IN AN IMPORTANT

REGION OF THE COUNTRY WHICH CANNOT BE ADEQUATELY COMPENSATED FOR FROM CARACAS. SUPPORT TO THE CARACAS BNC'S IS ALSO, IN MY VIEW, IMPORTANT BOTH FOR SUBSTANTIVE IMPACT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL LINKAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THERE ARE OTHER TRADE-OFFS WHICH WOULD BE LESS DAMAGING TO THE TOTAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES EFFORT OF THE MISSION.

5. RATHER THAN ELIMINATE THE MARACAIBO POSITION, I WOULD UNDER THIS PACKAGE SUGGEST ELIMINATION OF ONE OF THE CAO POSITIONS.THERE ARE NOW FOUR AMERICAN POSITIONS IN THAT SECTION. A 10 PERCENT REDUCTION IN THE EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES WOULD BE PROGRAMMED FOR THIS PACKAGE IN ANY EVENT. THE PAO TELLS ME THAT REDUCTION OF THE CAO STAFF BY ONE WILL AFFECT THE AMSPECS PROGRAM, BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR TO ME THAT THIS NEED NECESSARILY BE A SERIOUS REDUCTION, OR THAT THE TOTAL CULTURAL PROGRAM CANNOT BE READJUSTED TO A STAFF OF THREE WITHOUT MAJOR LOSS OF EFFECTIVENESS IN MEETING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. I BELIEVE THAT THE ADJUSTMENTS REQUIRED IN THIS WAY WOULD BE LESS UNDESIRABLE THAN ELIMINATING THE BNC MARACAIBO POSITION.

6. SIMILARLY, RATHER THAN DELETE THE BNC PROGRAM ENTIRELY I WOULD ASK FOR RECONSIDERATION OF CONTINUANCE OF SOME OF THIS SUPPORT; COMPENSATORY REDUCTIONS IN THE MORE MARGINAL EXPENSES OF INFORMATION PLACEMENT, PERIODICAL PLACEMENT AND RADIO/MOPIX/TV PROGRAMS SHOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT GLUTTING THOSE PROGRAMS.

7. I AGREE WITH THE THE OTHER BUDGETING PACKAGES, INCLUDING THE 113 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERCENT PACKAGE. IN THE LATTER CASE, THE PROGRAM WITH SIMON BOLIVAR AND THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE SUBSTANTIALLY SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES TOWARD EFFICIENCY AND THE REALIZATION OF

OUR COMMUNICATIONS GOALS. UNDERT THE 113 PERCENT PACKAGE NO RPT NO ADDITIONAL POSITIONS SHOULD BE NECESSARY.

8. (B) DAO. THE DAO LISTS THREE "PRIMARY MISSIONS" GIVEN IT BY DIA (DIRECTIVE C-5101.32): (1) TO COLLECT AND REPORT MILITARY AND POLITICAL -MILITARY INTELLIGENCE; (2) TO PERFORM REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTIONS FOR DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AND ARMED FORCES; AND (3) TO ADVISE THE AMBASSADOR AND OTHER MISSION OFFICERS ON MILITARY MATTERS.

9.THE FIRST MISSION IS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF THE OVERALL ACTIVITIES OF THIS MISSION. THE OTHER TWO ARE USEFUL, BUT ARE NOT, IN MY JUDGEMENT, OF THE SAME ORDER OF PRIORITY, ESSENTIALITY OR IMPACT.

10. THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ISSUED BY DIA ARE VOLUMINOUS BUT ARE CAPABLE OF BEING PRIORITIZED, AND I THINK THE DAO DOES THIS ADEQUATELY.

I HAVE THE IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT DIA IS EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN QUANTITY, AND THAT THE DAO'S TEND TO BE JUDGED BY THE NUMBER OF

REPORTS SUBMITTED AS MUCH AS BY THEIR QUALITY OR UTILITY. IN ANY EVENT, IT DOES NOT SEEM REASONABLE TO ARGUE THAT THE TOTAL LEVY IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT AND THAT NOTHING CAN BE FOREGONE.

11. THE DAO STAFF CURRENTLY CONSISTS OF FIVE ATTACHES (AIR, ARMY AND NAVY, ASSISTANT AIR, WHO IS ALSO A PILOT, AND ASSISTANT ARMY), FOUR ENLISTED MEN (OPERATIONS COORDINATOR, INTELLIGENCE TECHNICIAN AND TWO ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICIANS) AND ONE CIVILIAN RESEARCH ANALYST. THERE ARE IN ADDITION THREE LOCAL-HIRE DRIVERS AND A CONTRACT BEECH COMPANY TECHNICIAN FOR THE AIRCRAFT.

12. IN MY VIEW THIS STAFFING IS GENEROUS. ALTHOUGH THE DEFATT DUTIFULLY REPORTS THAT HE DOES NOT FEEL HE CAN ABSORB THE LOSS OF ANY POSITION AUTHORIZED AT PRESENT, IF A 10 PERCENT REDUCTION WERE DIR-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ECTED, HE BELIEVES THE ELIMINATION OF ONE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICIANS WULD BE THE MOST ACCEPTABLE. THIS WOULD MEAN SOME REDUCTION IN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, ESPECIALLY IN SUPPORT OF VIP AIRCRAFT/SHIP AND DOD VISITS.

13. I AM ON RECORD WITH-- AND I REPEAT HERE-- A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHE POSITION BE ELIMINATED UPON COMPLETION OF THE INCUMBENT'S TOUR. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT FIVE ATTACHES ARE REQUIRED IN THIS COUNTRY, AND I SEE NO REASON WHY FOUR ATTACHES CANNOT ADEQUATELY MEET REASONABLE DIA REQUIREMENTS. I BELIEVE THIS TRUE EVEN WITH THE REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WHICH THE ARMY AND AIR ATTACHES ARE TASKED.

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ACTION ARA-14

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INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 A-01 MMO-01 PER-01 ABF-01
OMB-01 AGRE-00 EB-08 COME-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 OES-07
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R 171848Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2317

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14. C. FAS. THE AGRICULTURAL SECTION'S PROGRAMS FALL INTO TWO MAIN CATEGORIES--COMMODITY ANALYSIS AND REPORTING AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT. THERE ARE ALSO MISCELLANEOUS TASKS SUCH AS BACKSTOPPING OTHER SERVICES, E.G., ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE. THESE TASKS RELATE DIRECTLY TO OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, AND BOTH REPORTING AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT MESH WITH AND COMPLEMENT SIMILAR PROGRAMS OF THE EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION.

15. THE SECTION GIVES FIRST PRIORITY, AND THE LARGEST PART OF ITS WORK EFFORT, TO MARKET DEVELOPMENT, SECOND MAJOR PRIORITY TO ANALYSIS AND REPORTING, AND RANKS OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDING ANSWERING TRADE INQUIRIES AS THIRD PRIORITY. I THINK THIS IS ABOUT RIGHT.

16. THE STAFF CONSISTS OF THREE AMERICAN POSITIONS (ATTACHE, ASSISTANT ATTACHE AND SECRETARY) AND TWO LOCALS. THIS OFFICE IS ALSO REQUIRED TO COVER TRINIDAD, GUYANA, SURINAM, ANTIGUA, BARBADOS, DOMINICA, GRANADA, MONTSEERRAT, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, ST. KITT-NEVIS, ST. LUCIA AND ST. VINCENT.

17. UNLESS THE REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND SOME OF THE MAJOR REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ARE ELIMINATED, THERE IS NO FEASIBLE WAY TO REDUCE MANPOWER WITHOUT CUTTING INTO THESE MAJOR ACTIVITIES. I WOULD
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SUGGEST THAT FAS CONSIDER SHIFTING REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES ELSEWHERE, MOVING THE ASSISTANT ATTACHE SLOT TO ANOTHER POST TO HANDLE THESE, AND VETTING THE COMMODITY ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING THEM. WITHOUT THESE STEPS, I WOULD NOT EXPECT A REDUCTION IN THIS AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES.

18. D. IAGS. THIS AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES, CARRIED OUT BY A STAFF OF THREE AMERICANS, ARE CENTERED ON THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: SATELLITE GEODESY; AERONAUTICAL CHARTING; HYDROGRAPHIC CHARTING; REMOTE SENSING; AND ASSISTANCE IN TRAINING. THESE ACTIVITIES SERVE THE PURPOSE OF TRANSFERRING TECHNOLOGY, ASSISTING IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND IN INSTITUTION BUILDING. THEY THUS CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAJOR GOALS OF IMPROVING BILATERAL ECONOMIC AND GENERAL RELATIONS.

19. GIVEN THE TECHNICAL NATURE OF THE WORK IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PRIORITIZE TASKS ADEQUATELY; EITHER FULL SEGMENTS OF THE WORK ARE DROPPED OR NOT. THE CONTRIBUTION OF THESE ACTIVITIES TO OUR GOALS AND GENERAL RELATIONSHIP ARE SUCH THAT I WOULD NOT ADVOCATE A

REDUCTION IN THEIR LEVEL.

20. E. DEA. THERE ARE TWO DEA OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO THIS POST. THEIR TASK OF COOPERATING WITH VENEZUELAN AUTHORITIES IN THE SUPPRESSION OF NARCOTICS TRAFFIC IS AN ESSENTIAL ACTIVITY. IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AID MISSION, THEY ALSO ADMINISTER TRAINING PROGRAMS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTION-BUILDING ACTIVITY. THE THREAT IS RISING, AND I ADVOCATE MAINTENANCE OF THIS LEVEL OF ACTIVITY AND MANPOWER. INDEED, IN THE FACE OF A RISING THREAT WE MAY HAVE TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (CARACAS 4312).

21. F. MILGP. MILGP'S STAFFING HAS JUST BEEN REDUCED PURSUANT TO LEGISLATION TO A SIX-MAN ODC. THIS IS ADEQUATE AND ABOUT RIGHT, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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I HAVE NO FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO THIS ENTITY.

22. G. FBI AND IRS. THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE AGENCIES ARE NOT RELATED TO THE MISSION'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. WHETHER OR NOT THEY OPERATE HERE, HAS NO BEARING ON THE MISSION ITSELF. THESE OFFICES EXIST HERE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE PARENT AGENCIES IN CARRYING OUT THEIR OBJECTIVES AND GOALS. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO ME THAT IN EITHER CASE THE EXISTENCE OF AN OFFICE IN CARACAS IS NECESSARY OR ESSENTIAL TO THE AGENCIES' ACTIVITIES. GIVEN THE HIGH COST OF CARACAS, I AM ON RECORD AS RECOMMENDING THAT IN BOTH CASES THE OFFICES BE MOVED ELSEWHERE OR THE WORK HANDLED FROM WASHINGTON.

23. LEGAT AGREES WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION AND HAS RECOMMENDED TO THE FBI THAT THE OFFICE HERE BE SPLIT, MOVING ONE AGENT TO BOGOTA AND ONE TO THE CARIBBEAN, COVERING CARACAS REGIONALLY.

24. IRS CARACAS OPPOSED THIS RECOMMENDATION ON THE GROUND THAT THERE WAS MUCH WORK TO BE DONE HERE. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO ME, HOWEVER, THAT A RESIDENT STAFF OF THREE AMERICANS IS REQUIRED AT THIS HIGH-COST POST; I WOULD RECOMMEND A CAREFUL COST-EFFECTIVENESS STUDY TO EXAMINE WHY TDY PERSONNEL, OF WHICH A REGULAR FLOW IS PRESENT HERE ANYWAY, CANNOT HANDLE THE WORK.

25. (II) LOWEST TEN PERCENT ACTIVITIES. PER PARA 4, PART II REFTTEL, THE FOLLOWING ARE THOSE ACTIVITIES WHICH IN MY VIEW FALL WITHIN THAT 10 PERCENT OF USG ACTIVITIES THAT ARE LEAST IMPORTANT TO THE ATTAINMENT OF OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

(A) WTD REPORTING. (SATISFACTORY ALTERNATIVE WAYS EXIST FOR US BUSINESSMEN TO ACQUIRE THIS INFORMATION, E.G., CONTRACT, COMMERCIAL SOURCES. AS MUCH AS ONE OFFICER AND ONE LOCAL CAN BE SAVED BY SHIFTING THIS OPERATION TO OTHER CHANNELS).

(B) ADS (COMMERCIAL SERVICE)-- AGAIN, ALTERNATIVE CHANNELS ARE AVAILABLE TO US BUSINESSMEN THROUGH BANKS AND COMMERCIAL CHANNELS.

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(C) PARTS OF CERP REPORTING: (1) POL: ANNUAL LABOR AND COMMUNIST COUNTRIES REPORTS; (2) ECON: A SERIES OF EIGHT REPORTS WHOSE ELIMINATION WAS REQUESTED IN 76 A-157-- ALL AT AN ESTIMATED SAVING OF 300 MAN-HOURS.

(D) IN -CITY MESSENGER SERVICE.

(E) SERVICES FOR VISITORS (PROVISION OF CAR AND CHAUFFEUR, ET.)

(F) LEGAT AND IRS ACTIVITIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
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Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2670208
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY -1980 GORM PROCESS, PART II: OTHER AGENCIES
TAGS: OGEN, AFSP
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Type: TE
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